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MONDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 28, 1921.

When any duty is to be done it is
fortunate for you if you feel like
doing it, but if you do not feel like
it, that is no reason for not doing it.
—Washington Gladden.

An Association of Nations

In urging an association of nations for peace,
President Harding had the authority of the Republican
national platform which declared:

"The Republican party stands for an agreement
among the nations to preserve the peace of the world.
We believe that such an international association must
be based upon international justice and must provide
methods which shall maintain the rule of public right
by the development of law and the decision of impar-
tial courts and which shall secure instant and general
international conference whenever peace shall be
threatened by political action, so that the nations
pledged to do and insist upon what is right and fair
may exercise their influence and power for the pres-
ervation of war."

"We believe that all this can be done without
the compromise of national independence, without de-
priving the people of the United States in advance
the right to determine for themselves what is just and
fair when the occasion arises and without involving
them as participants and not as peacekeepers, in a
multitude of quarrels, the merits of which they are
unable to judge."

There is here, of course, no outline of an associa-
tion. Nor later did Mr. Harding as candidate outline
any, though in almost every important speech and
interview, he mentioned an "association of nations."
His political enemies accused him of generalities if
not vagueness, and declared that "association" was
only a purposefully chosen variant of "league," a term
for which they seemed to give Mr. Wilson the credit
of invention.

Neither the Republican delegates at Chicago nor
the candidate they chose, felt authorized, if they felt
competent, more accurately to define an "association
of nations." It could not have been done without a
conference with the nations who were to be associated.
A definite outline of it by the convention or
by Mr. Harding in the campaign would have been
regarded, and reasonably so, as a trick of the cam-
paign.

It has now at a proper time and in a proper
place—while the conference on the limitation of ar-
maments is sitting—been proposed by the president—
a meeting of the nations at stated times to consider
all matters of international concern and in a round
table discussion to adjust such difficulties as may
have arisen.

No nation in such a conference would feel itself
under duress or restraint. It would not be made the
victim of a majority. It could be committed to nothing
without the consent of its own citizens. The very
friendliness of the atmosphere in such a conference
would tend to soften the views of disputants who
would credit one another with good intentions. Such
agreements as would be reached in such a conference
would be more likely to be kept than such as might
be imposed upon unwilling nations.

A witty paragrapher lately said that the orders
of an international court would be ineffective with-
out an international sheriff. Nations cannot be
regarded as individuals or even as counties, states
or provinces, unless we wipe out all international
lines. Then we could punish recalcitrant nations,
just as now the central power of a nation may be
imposed upon all its constituent territory. But no-
body in the world but dreamers, wants a super-nation
in which would be retained all the present geographi-
cal and racial distinctions, and multiplicity of lan-
guages and divergent interests. No nation would
long be a vassal of any other nation or combination
of nations. Nor could the integrity of any ruling
combination be guaranteed beyond the lives of the
governments or administrations which consented to
their formation. The combinations would be as
changeable as the figures of a kaleidoscope.

An association, though, formed on a basis of
friendship and disinterestedness, on an assurance of
national usefulness, would be likely to endure and
grow stronger from government to government and
from generation to generation.

It is probable, too, that in such an association
some form of protective guaranties would be de-
veloped.

Ships and Railroads

The shipping interests are making out a very
strong case in their opposition to the application of
the transcontinental railroads for the setting aside of
the fourth section of the Interstate commerce act,
as to traffic moving from coast to coast.

Shippers of course would prefer a land route
to a water route, but because of the lower rates of
the former enough traffic is moved back and forth
between the two coast to keep twelve lines of steam-
ers busy. We believe that at the present rate 400,
000,000 tons are now moved annually.

The railroads estimate this in terms of trainloads
and tell us how many thousands of additional trains
they would be able to move if they were allowed to
reduce their rates to meet water competition.

Leaving out of the discussion, the certainty that
such a rate would not be reasonably compensatory,
we may admit that if the rate were made low enough
to meet water competition, the roads would get all
the traffic now handled by steamers and the coast
to coast business of the steamers would be aban-
doned. The government could not consent to this
abolition of water transportation, the diversion of all
water-borne traffic to the railroads, when it is
apparent to suppose that a railway rate can be
made without loss to meet a water rate.

It is the contention of the roads that the new
business which this diversion would give them would
replenish their coffers. At the same time their com-
plaint is loud and continual that their present higher
rates in the interior are too low. With the water

transportation throttled, it would be but a short
time until we would hear from the railroads that
they were losing money on through traffic. Mean-
while the interior would be paying the costs of the
war resulting in the destruction of the sea-carrying
vessels.

But if the roads are correct in declaring that
they can carry all this sea traffic at a slight profit,
then, of course, we do not need the coastwise ship.
The government should support nothing that is not
needed. It should cut off all appropriations for har-
bor improvements except for harbors for trans-
oceanic vessels and for its navy. No trans-oceanic
traffic touches the Pacific coast except at Seattle,
Portland and San Francisco; none on the Atlantic,
we believe, south of Baltimore and comparatively
little south of New York.

The vast expenditures which have been made on
the improvement of the Mississippi to make it a
link in deep sea transportation could be entirely
abated. We could utterly abandon all coastwise ser-
vice. The question of Panama tolls would be simpli-
fied and settled. We would have no vessels to be
beneficiaries of free tolls.

We could then cast out the pork barrel. There
would be no more log-rolling in the framing of rivers
and harbors bills. The few expenditures the gov-
ernment would be called upon to make in the harbors
where trans-oceanic vessels are received and whence
they depart, and the withdrawal of appropriations
for the improvement of the Mississippi would leave
little space for the wedging in of appropriations to
make impossible creeks and rivulets navigable.

The Parking Problem

The parking problem is becoming a more diffi-
cult one in all towns as the automobile congestion
becomes greater. It has been satisfactorily solved
in few if any places. It can never be solved until
there is a recognition of the simple fact that the
greater the number of cars the greater must be the
space within which they are to be parked.

On Saturday night we spent half an hour watch-
ing a driver extricate himself from the curb on Cen-
ter street near Washington. But for his expertness
and patience he could not have accomplished the feat
even in that time. His car was next to the curb.
The space between it and one in front was about a
foot. It was as near to the one in the rear.

That situation alone was enough to tax the inge-
nuity of the average driver, but it was only a
small part of the complication. There was an outer
row of cars. One of ordinary thoughtfulness when
parking in the second row usually leaves his car
so that it stands exactly beside the inner car. But
in this case the driver of the second line car had
thoughtlessly stopped it so that it overlapped the
space between the two inner cars. The driver had
then probably gone to a show. The driver who was
trying to free himself from the trap was obliged to
push the outer car out of his way and then with
difficulty he was able to get out.

Center street is not a wide thoroughfare. Yet on
each side there were two lines of cars, leaving a
narrow alley-way in which two cars were barely able
to pass. If one of them had an inexperienced driver,
there would probably have been a collision. As in the
case of the Germans at Verdun, they would not have
passed.

This arrangement, too, is filled with peril for
pedestrians crossing Center street on the north side
of Washington. A pedestrian is frequently confused
by the lights and noise, a car turning in from Wash-
ington and another approaching down Center. We
have seen many of them escape being struck only
by the driver executing a quick swerve. But when
there is a double line of automobiles standing there,
there is so little room to swerve, that a collision
either with an automobile or a pedestrian is likely.

Owners and drivers of automobiles should be
taught that they cannot all park in the center of
the town; that they must go farther out—two, three
or four blocks if necessary, to find places where
they are not endangering life and property and in-
conveniencing the public.

One reason why the central part of the city is
so congested at night is that car owners want to
leave their machines in a strong light in proximity
to crowds for the discouragement of thieves. But
there are ways of locking cars that frustrate thieves.
Anyhow if one is fearful of thieves it would be better
for him to leave his car in the security of his garage
than to make travel on the principal streets unsafe.

Says the New York Morning Telegraph: "One
hundred and ten Vassar girls are said to be anxious
to edit the college paper. Is that all? The usual per-
centage of those who think they can edit a paper
better than anybody else is about 99 plus."

Some scientist is proposing to test the sight of
bees. If their vision is defective it has become so
since we were a boy. They never missed their aim
then.

The New York Evening Post suggests that the
greatest honor that could be done to the Unknown
Soldier would be to see that there should be no more
wars.

Henry Ford has proved himself an expert in the
making of automobiles. Now let us put to Henry
the problem of parking them.

TRAMPS

You cannot get away from the law of supply and
demand as long as you live in three dimensions. Ein-
stein hasn't told us whether the law holds good in
the fourth dimension, but probably it does.

The shipping board cuts ocean freight rates on
grain a third. That's made necessary by the com-
petition of tramp freighters.

When there are more ships than cargoes, supply
and demand makes the price fall. Same with wages,
when men exceed jobs. It works the other way when
cargoes exceed ships or jobs exceed men to fill them.
We all have our ups and downs—but they're mostly
ups.

HOUSEKEEPERS

In New York public schools, girls are being
taught to keep house in small, cramped flats. Too
bad, but that is necessary, for the increasing tend-
ency is for people to congest more thickly in cities.
It will be a red letter day when the tide turns to
the farms and city schools begin to teach girls how
to keep house in the open country with its fresh air,
good health, pure milk for babies, independent life,
glorious nature and boundless playgrounds for the
kiddies. Living in a city is a mild form of insanity.

CORRECT

"Now, said the professor of chemistry, 'under
what combination is gold most quickly released?'"
The student pondered a moment. "I know, sir,"
he answered. "Marriage!"—Edinburgh Scotsman.

REMOVING THE INTOXICANT

BERTON BRALEY AT
THE JAPANESE
EMBASSY

Here is the hive where the Japanese swarm
Buzzing like bees that have work to perform.
Tall Japs and small Japs and fat Japs and thin,
Bright-eyed and beaming and yellow of skin,
Wary Japs, merry Japs, Japs that are cocky,
Japs from Kobe, Tokyo, Nagasaki,
Japanese journalists, dandy or naty,
Most of them spectacled, all of them chatty,
Forty or more in a sort of a mob,
Loudly, intensely, discussing their job.

Doors open inward and doors open out,
Clerks and attachés go rushing about.
Bearing portfolios full of strange mysteries,
Foreign embargoes, deep secret histories,
Or—here's a simpler, more probable hunch—
Full of engraved invitations to lunch.
Tongues are a-chatter and typewriters clatter,
Many feet patter in office and hall,
Japs very busily run around dizzily,
Nobody seems to be quiet at all.

Down in the basement the chopsticks are clicking,
Somewhere above there's a telegraphic ticking,
Everyone's hurrying, scurrying, worrying;
Who said the Japs are a stolid race?
They could set even us Yankee's a pace.
Still in this madhouse of business-like noise
Nippon's three delegates hold to their poise;
They are sphinxes whose riddle we seek.
What will their answer be when they shall speak?

Back of those lineaments, calm, Oriental,
Back of those smiles so excessively dental,
What is the object that Kato's arriving at?
What is the goal Shidehara is driving at?
What's Tokugawa's particular plan?
What's in the mind and the heart of Japan?
Will they come out in the open to gain it?
Or subtly and secretly strive to attain it?
Darried if I know—I can't speak Japanese—
All that I'm sure is they're busy as bees,
Busy as bees in the summer and spring,
Bees who, we hope, will relinquish their sting.

The Anglo-Japanese Alliance

By Frederic J. Haskin

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 25.—
Although both the British and the
Japanese are still putting forth pro-
paganda on behalf of a renewal of
the Anglo-Japanese alliance, it seems
to be now the general opinion that it
will not be renewed and that its ter-
mination will be a great factor in
establishing peace on a sound basis in
the Far East.

That the Japanese want this alli-
ance and that it would be an ad-
vantage to them in the future as it
has been in the past is obvious.

Japan's career of economic and mili-
tary imperialism, which has carried
her into Siberia, Manchuria and
China, has been made possible largely
by this British support. If this alli-
ance were continued on the same
terms, Japan's imperialistic career
could continue and the militaristic
forces in that country would be
strengthened. If the alliance is
sincerely renounced by Great Brit-
ain, and Great Britain is genuinely
in accord with the United States in
Asiatic policy, Japan's imperialistic
ambitions will be most effectively
curbed. She will face a combina-
tion against which she cannot possi-
bly hope to prevail. The liberal
forces in Japan will be strengthened.

This curbing of Japan's militaristic
career therefore stands out with in-
creasing clearness as the great object
of the conference. Its accomplish-
ment will be a long step toward in-
ternational peace, in the opinion of
the best-informed observers. It can
be done without alienating all
Japanese confidence in the western
powers. Japan has survived as a
nation solely by reason of her mili-
tary and naval strength. She has
seen every other Asiatic nation ex-
ploited and robbed of autonomy and
integrity by the western nations. Her
faith in the big stick is based on
logic and experience. That is why
even the liberal forces in Japan rally
behind the government immediately
when an emergency arises. Japan
must be convinced therefore, not only
that her present course in Asia is
Manchuria and Siberia must be
abandoned, but also that her integrity
and her rights in Asia and of pro-
mote will be respected. If Japan
goes away disgruntled and suspi-
cious, nothing much has been accom-
plished for the cause of peace.

Why England Wants Alliance
It is easy enough to see why Japan

wants the alliance with England, but
not so easy to see the basis of the
English desire for it. The English
government originally considered it
necessary to offset the menace of
Russia to her Asiatic empire. With
Russia a great imperialistic power,
Great Britain really needed a strong
allied ally. With Russia out of
the game of Empire, she does not
need such an ally. Doubtless Japan
is still useful to her by doing her
naval police work in Asiatic waters,
but it has been announced that Great
Britain will have an Asiatic fleet of her
own, so this work is evidently no
longer to be entrusted to Japan.

Moreover, Japan, it is said in many
quarters, has steadily injured British
business, has steadily injured British
trade, and has no confidence in any power
allied with Japan.

What, then, is the purpose in Asia
that Japan and England still have in
common? One well informed ob-
server says that it is a purpose which
neither of them can afford to state in
public, and which certainly will never
be mentioned at the conference. That
common purpose is the rise of demo-
cratic ideals in Asia.

Japan is ruled by an oligarchy. Its
constitution and its parliament are
a joke. It is a country where the
usual ingredients of a New England
boiled dinner, sometimes salt pork
and ham bone is used as a basis for
such a dish.

What is included in a New
England boiled dinner?—T. M.

A. Corned beef, potatoes, carrots,
turnips, cabbage and onions are the
usual ingredients of a New England
boiled dinner. Sometimes salt pork
and ham bone is used as a basis for
such a dish.

mus meat? Is he in captivity fond
of sweet meats? R. E. D.

Lardon man's indulgences fre-
quently weight from 4 to 4½ tons.
This animal will eat sweet things,
but he is not particularly fond of
them.

Q. Kindly send me the rules gov-
erning the egg rolling contest played
on the White House lawn on Easter
Monday. N. L. H.

A. The superintendent of grounds
of the White House says that as far
as he knows there are no rules gov-
erning the egg rolling on the White
House grounds. Many contests have
place, but these are entirely unof-
ficial.

Q. Does the King of England re-
ceive a salary? H. M. R.

A. The King of England receives
a certain amount of money, which
might be construed as a salary, but
is known as the Civil list, allowing
him a sum of £700,000 pounds. Of
this sum, £100,000 are to be used for
the privy purse of the king and the
queen; £25,000 for the salaries of the

BIBLE THOUGHT FOR TODAY

GUARD YOUR THOUGHTS:—Finally, brethren,
whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are
honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things
are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if
there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think
on these things.—Philippians 4:8.

POLONAISE

BY DR. FRANK CRANE
(Copyright, 1921, by Frank Crane)

Poland contains 300,000 square miles and hence is
about one-tenth the size of the United States, which
contains about 3,000,000.

It has 30,000,000 inhabitants, which is about a
third of the number in the United States (95,000,000)
excluding our extra territory (10,000,000).

Its people are proud and independent, but for
many years it has been oppressed by its two powerful
neighbors, Russia and Germany.

As one result of the war, Poland was made free,
and is now a member of the League of Nations.

It has very fertile soil and the harvests in peace
time are excellent.

It was much harassed by the Germans in the war
and by the Bolsheviks since. It is now getting on its
feet slowly.

Its forests are enormous. One Polish authority
estimates that they could be sold for enough to pay the
national debt.

It is a Republic. Its President is General Pil-
sudsky.

Its capital is Warsaw, which contains a million
people.

You get some idea of its extent when you travel
there and discover that it takes the train twenty-three
hours to go from Warsaw to the Russian frontier east-
ward, and twelve hours to go northward to the German
border.

It has plenty of all mineral supplies but coal, which
is why Poland wants Silesia, where coal is plentiful.

The industrial districts of Poland are almost as
densely populated as Belgium.

The railways are in bad condition, owing to the
destruction caused by the German and Russian in-
vasions.

Poland's currency is badly wrecked. Before the
war a Polish mark was worth a shilling, or about a
quarter; now it takes 7,000 of them to buy four dollars'
worth of goods. This renders trade almost impossible.

Poland badly needs raw materials from other
countries, and cannot buy them an account of its worth-
less money.

Alexander M. Thompson, Labor Correspondent for
a London newspaper, says:

"The country's recovery has been further hin-
dered of late by a series of strikes, inspired, according
to business men, by Bolshevik propaganda, which,
owing to the wholesale influx of refugees from Russia,
is here exceptionally easy and active. Manufacturers
have another grievance in the fact that Poland has the
shortest working week of any country in the world,
the late Socialist Government having fixed the legal
working maximum at forty-six hours, except in the
case of agriculture. In the latter industry arbitration
in the case of disputes is compulsory."

The Poles are a vigorous, polite and brilliant peo-
ple. They have excelled especially in music.

Their experiment in democracy will be watched
with interest, since all their traditions are aristocratic.

It is a country in the making, and it has a deal of
ancient grudges and hard hates to live down.

It is fairly started, however, on the way toward
prosperity, and will one day make an influential and
valuable member of the society of nations.

THE CITY OF TOMORROW

BY G. D. YOAKUM

OUR SPIRITUAL ILLITERACY

Someone is always knocking over
educational system. But the knock-
ers are mostly experienced educa-
tional men. They know what they
are doing. Among the faults generally admitted
is its failure to inculcate the all-im-
portant ideals of religion.

We believe in the complete separa-
tion of state from church, but we do
not believe in the separation of the
state from religion. We believe the
divorce of secular teaching from
education has been the making of
a nation of materialists and egoists.
Education in America; the de-
struction of the final and absolute.
But to divorce religion from educa-
tion is to impoverish both.

The educators of the state assem-
bled here in annual convention a few
days ago appointed a committee of
nine to look into the North Dakota
plan for religious instruction. The
request came from a similar com-
mittee appointed by the State Sunday
School association, and the two will
co-operate. Briefly, the plan pro-
vides for the dismissal of all children
whose parents desire it for an hour
or more each week in order that they
may go to their respective churches
for systematic training in religious
fundamentals. The plan is said to
have the prime merit of being work-
able.

Success to the committee! Man's
need of religion is as constant as his
need of bread. Religion is an atti-
tude toward God and the world,
based upon inner hunger and the
need for harmonizing external facts
with the hunger lie outside of the peda-
gogic art, probably, but the rest, the
harmonizing and interpreting of
facts, as the teacher's perfect oppor-
tunity. If education is the transmis-
sion of inherited culture then that
more schooling which aims to tell
the sublime story of the influence of
dreams and hopes of the soul upon
the course of human life is a skeleton
without flesh. To teach a child that
there are people across the sea—that
is geography; to teach him that those
people have arts, literature and cus-
toms brought down from the misty
past—that is history; to teach him
to frame the syllables of their speech,
to hear the result of this test.

It is not highbrow, it is not the-
oretical, but the test of educational ef-
ficiency made by the library itself.
To know literature one must know
the English Bible, and know it well.
On the showing of numerous prac-
tical tests it is evident that we have
in our midst many people who are
spiritually illiterate. They know
nothing of Confucius nor Christ. In the
deed things of the soul they are not
versed; to the extent of their ill-
teracy they like the monkeys in the
tree, devoid of the consolation of
knowing how their ancestors, some
of whom were prophets and saints,
met pain and defeat, sorrow and
death. And their condition is an in-
dication of our boasted popular edu-
cation.

royal household and retired allow-
ances, 125,000 for household expenses
and 20,000 pounds for general work;
13,200 pounds for alms and bounty;
and 8,000 pounds unappropriated.

Florence, Italy, is known as the
city of flowers.

Q. What is the difference between a
king and a queen? H. M. R.

A. The difference between a king
and a queen is that a king is a
man and a queen is a woman.

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